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Hoping to buy a Spring Formal ticket?  
Read up on some policy changes.

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# TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

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## Students Speak Survey results highlight areas of improvement for student life

**Kori Bowns**  
LAYOUT EDITOR

The 2015 Students Speak Survey was administered online by IIT's Center for Research and Service. The survey was emailed out to all IIT undergraduate and graduate students and allowed them to respond between October 26 and November 17, 2015. A committee of students identified university services that students interact most with and can give feedback on. The survey committee is also supported by Dr. George Langlois, the Executive Director for the Center for Research and Service as well as IIT's Leadership Academy.

The survey sought to determine students' satisfaction with 12 different "service areas," or facets of campus that students often interact with: Academic Advising, Community Affairs, Career Services, Dining Services, Facilities/Grounds, Financial Aid, Graduate College, International Center, Library, Residence and Greek Life, Student Government Association, and Student Bar Association. Compared to the previous school

year's Students Speak Survey, the student response rate increased. In 2014, 39 percent of IIT students overall responded compared with 40 percent for 2015's survey. For each service area identified in the survey, respondents first determined whether they have used the service within the past school year. If the student answered that they had, a variety of questions were then posed to the reader. Across all of the service areas, a few common questions were asked about each one. These core survey items concerned whether the service provided a timely response to questions, treated students with respect, provided accurate information, and provided quality service. Then, each service had some customized questions as well as open-ended questions for students to give more specific feedback.

According to the Executive Summary of the Students Speak Survey released in January and made available for students to view on MyIIT, overall student satisfaction has improved. Across the survey results, undergraduate students tended to rate items lower than graduate students' ratings of the same items. One visible exception to

this trend is in the service area of Student Government Association, where 11 percent of undergraduate respondents rated the service unfavorably across the common survey items compared to 18 percent of graduate students. The Executive Summary says that the "University Overall" category score increased 2 percent from 2014; this is a second consecutive increase since 2013. According to the summary, "The most favorably rated item (94 percent) asked students if they feel they are treated with respect by IIT staff. The least favorable item (73 percent) asked students if they feel like a valued member of the IIT community. The item that had the greatest positive change asked students if they feel safe on campus." This year, 85 percent of students positively responded when asked if they feel safe on campus; this is a 7 percent increase from the 2014 survey.

When comparing all of the service areas and the common questions that were asked about them, a few interesting statistics stand out. When comparing to data from the 2014 survey, only one service area had decrease in overall satisfaction among all students,

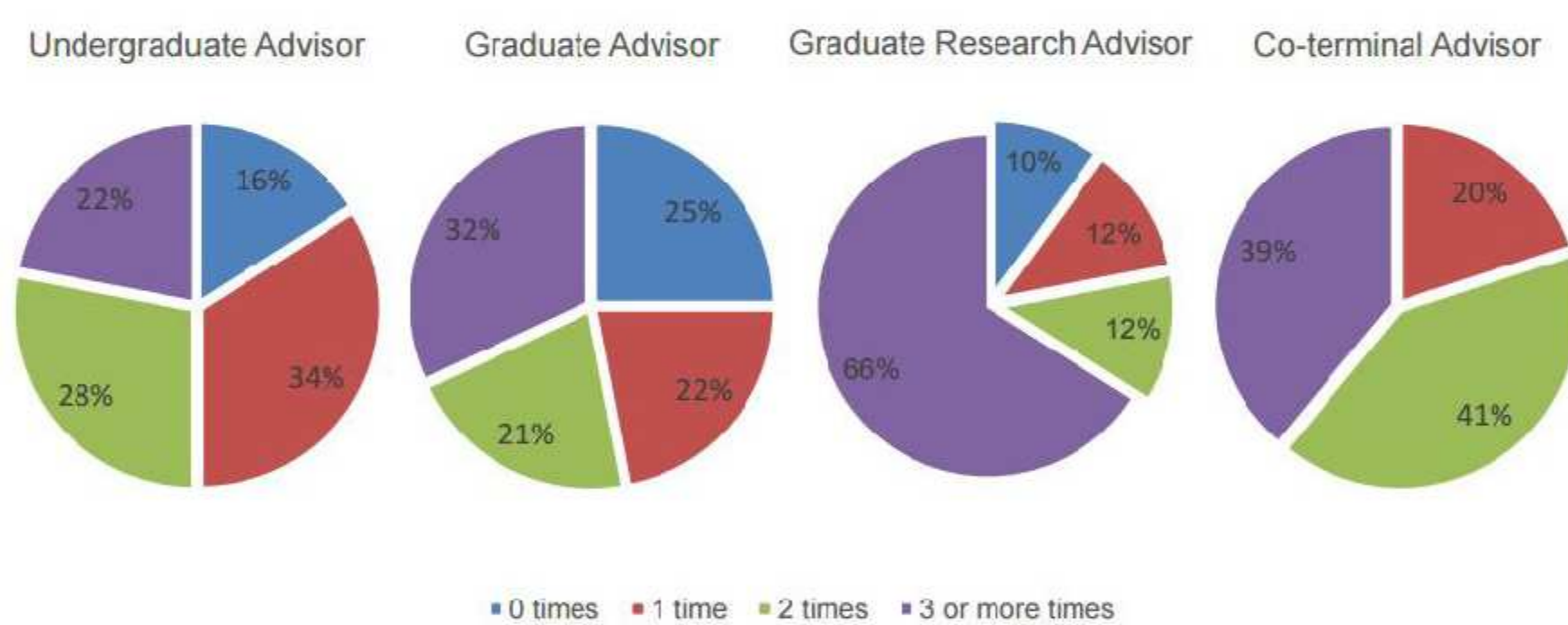
Dining Services, which had an overall 2 percent decrease. All other service areas had an overall increase, had no change compared to last year's data, or were not a part of last year's survey. The service area with the greatest positive change was IIT's Career Services, with a 6 percent increase in overall satisfaction.

The Executive Summary also points out the individual survey items that had the highest positive response and highest negative response. 95 percent of respondents say that our library staff have treated them with respect, the highest positive response collected. Conversely, only 69 percent of students who responded say that Dining Services provided them with quality service.

The Executive Summary continues to analyze student responses and breaks down each service area to look at responses and determine ways the area can improve based on student's open-ended submissions. The entire summary can be viewed on MyIIT under the "Student Life" tab; some images from the Executive Summary are published alongside this article.

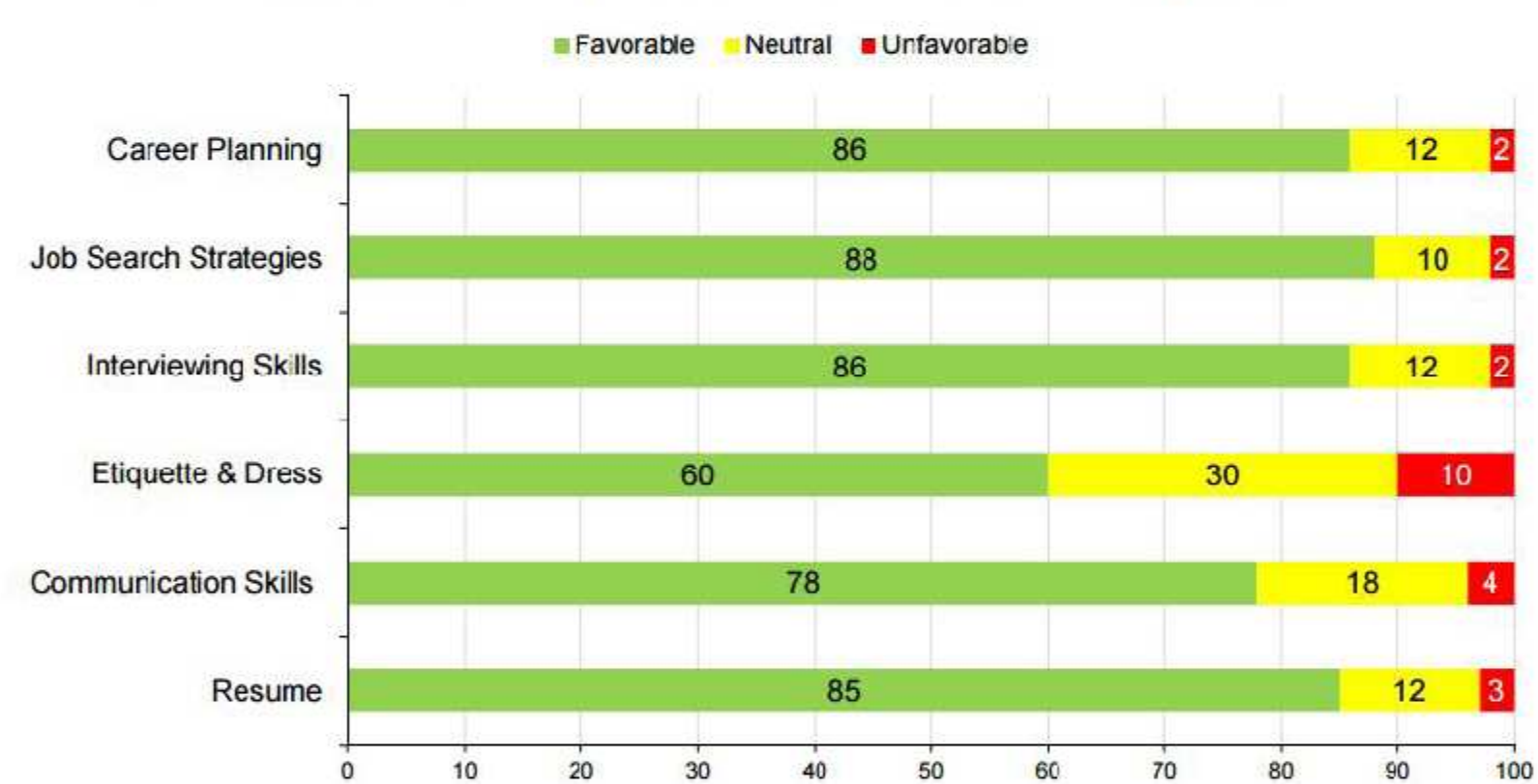
### Academic Advising: Custom Items

How many times did you meet or communicate with your academic advisor during the Spring 2015 semester?



### Career Services: Custom Items

Areas students want improvement & development (Overall) ...



Images Courtesy of Illinois Tech Students Speak Committee; View Additional Images on Page 5

## RHA Housing meeting covers Ethernet expansion, laundry machine maintenance, and more

**Soren Spicknall**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

On Valentine's Day evening, while many were out with their significant others, the Executive Board of Illinois Tech's Residence Hall Association gathered with a group of Floor Reps, RAs, and other interested residents to discuss housing in their first themed General Body Meeting of the semester. With Housing Committee Chair and RHA Vice President Khadijah Nesbitt presiding, the hour-long meeting covered a slew of current topics in the Residence Halls ranging from those that require a single maintenance request to a few that will require many semesters of negotiation to even begin implementation. Open input on all topics (and indeed, on any housing-related topics of participants' choosing) was encouraged, and a number of new issues were brought to light for RHA to act on in partnership with Residence and Greek Life.

At the beginning of the meeting, a few basic factual topics were immediately covered. Nesbitt and the entire RHA board took questions about summer housing and fall room reservations, and covered the costs of each room type that will be available during summer. One of the key points of discussion was a clarification that a meal plan is currently required to be able to live on campus over summer, and another point made was that summer housing residents will be moved to

Gunsaulus and SSV due to planned work in all MSV halls.

Moving on from structured slides, the discussion turned to open feedback and suggestions for RGL. James Thomas, RHA's staff advisor, was on hand to collect feedback in person in addition to discussing it at later meetings with the RHA Executive Board. First up, the prospect of changes to Illinois Tech's cable television package was brought up, with an emphasis on adding an online streaming option for students to use. While this idea was extremely popular, it was acknowledged that adding that feature would require a reduction in channels to equalize costs, and the present group wasn't prepared to definitively name any channels that could be readily removed from the school's current subscription. RHA members encouraged RAs to seek feedback from their residents on the issue, and will be using their own methods to gather input as well.

Next, the conversation turned to the seemingly perennial confusion over what issues in the Residence Halls call for a maintenance request, and what other options are available to address problems that fall outside the scope of a maintenance request. Specifically, RHA Executive Board members and Thomas both reiterated that laundry machine breakdowns are handled by Mac Gray through a separate ticket system, and that students who notice a broken machine should file a maintenance

request with Mac Gray, not with the University. Additionally, heating concerns were brought up, leading to a discussion of the grounds for an "emergency" maintenance procedure. This emergency procedure consists of informing Community Desk Assistants of an immediate problem, which can include an actively flooding bathroom or (during winter months) a broken heating unit. CDAs are supposed to act promptly on emergency issues, and RGL occasionally calls in unscheduled maintenance workers to deal with those issues on weekends and other unstaffed hours.

Finally, following the maintenance request discussion, the group tackled the recurring desire among certain students to have upgraded and expanded Ethernet in the Residence Halls. OTS has been focusing on improving the reliability of its Wi-Fi in recent years, and has stated that they would not expand or repair Ethernet infrastructure in the Residence Halls because such an effort would distract from their focus on wireless infrastructure. However, as a result of feedback gathered through RHA and the Students Speak survey, Residence and Greek Life has opened talks again with OTS about the possibility of upgrading and maintaining those wired connections.

Because all the current Ethernet connections in the Residence Halls use the old CAT3 standard, any changes to Ethernet would require each building to be completely

re-wired for CAT5 in an operation that would take place over summer break. This would involve large costs in buildings that are only scheduled to be in use for about eight more years, though that doesn't necessarily mean it couldn't be done with enough student pressure. However, because Gunsaulus is one of the buildings that will be occupied for summer housing this year, it likely wouldn't receive the upgrade until next summer at the earliest. Work like this requires long-term conversation and coordination between multiple offices and funding from the university's administration. For that reason, changes are made in a very deliberate, planned fashion to meet various legal and fiscal standards. RHA has heard from many people that Ethernet should be expanded, and is continuing to push RGL to continue their conversation with OTS and make it happen.

RHA has a number of upcoming General Body Meetings this semester which will focus on specific themes like this one. The March 6, March 27, and April 17 meetings will all have a theme, such as on-campus dining or RHA-curated events, and all residents will have the opportunity to voice their opinion and use the organization to create positive change. All residents are technically Residence Hall Association members, and the organization exists to effectively communicate residents' concerns to RGL.



# TechNews

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# The many masks of the celebrity psyche

**Timothy Ayodele**

TECHNEWS WRITER

With the Grammys having just happened last week, it's easy to get caught in a lot of the celebrity drama that happens before and after the fact. It's usually all just good fun for people watching these media titans battling it out on Twitter and other social media sites, but there is a morbid truth to what seems like harmless celebrity fame grabs. The truth is that it's all an act. Surprise, right? But before you roll your eyes, think about the last couple celebrity outbursts you've seen lately. If you're thinking of Kanye West, you probably aren't in the minority, yet what do we really know about him? Twitter would tell you he's a glorified child who equates himself to Jesus Christ and Pablo Picasso, but does it tell you he's a loving father, or a good husband, or an honest friend? Even besides Kanye West, try to think of any celebrity that truly posts on social media about their deep personal lives.

In a conversation I was having with a friend, he brought up the Twitter debate between Kanye and Wiz Khalifa, where Kanye West blew up over an alleged jab at his wife, and he seemed confused. My friend asked me "is any of that real? I mean it has to be an act, right?" At face value that seems to be the case, but a deeper look into Kanye and Wiz Khalifa's social media shows more layers to their internet image. Many things that both celebs say indeed seems manufactured through a couple hardworking PR guys, but it's hard to shake the air of authentic raw emotion that is often conveyed through celebrity social media postings. The possibility exists that the celebrity we see on social media may very well be the same person in real life, but not all of them.

The dangers of exposing your personal affairs and relationships likely causes celebrities to hide that aspect of their lives, while music corporations take what's left of their personality and personally manufacture it for monetary benefit. Now this is just a theory, but this method does partially explain some of the trends we see today. Imagine, if the image on social media was really complete fiction, why do we have scandals? It is true many celebrity scandals end up boosting the fame of many of the celebrities involved, but what about the ones that drag celebrities' reputation through the mud? In a world where all the personalities online are complete fiction, why would a celebrity purposefully sabotage themselves? Therefore, it validates the case that part of the celebrity you are seeing online is real, but it was the part of them designed to be seen.

Truthfully this is, in a sense, a given. Anyone who takes a couple minutes to actually examine the patterns of celebrity social media will note the obvious un-authenticity. What makes this fact important to point out is the people who don't notice these trends, or worse yet, people who take on these online fictions and model part of their own lives after them. This is the beginning of a dangerous trend of celebrity worship. Celebrity worship—according to L. Bogart's 1980 piece on the entertainment functions of television—is the act of following the potentially harmful, uninformed advice sometimes offered by celebrities for the purpose of fame or commercial gain. This is a common tool used by the music industry to generate wealth and fame, but also comes with side effects that damage society as a whole when left unchecked.

When people take what is essentially

an exaggeration of reality on social media and apply it to their actual lives, it creates a plethora of negative social norms that harms group image. Look at the fan bases of Kanye West or Wiz Khalifa as an example, many of their most hardcore fans can be found tirelessly defending their idols online and matching their lifestyle with their favorite celebrities to a T. Whether it's taking on that trademark Kanye arrogance or chain smoking papers like Wiz for days on end. A culture like this begins to replace people's sense of identity, as they associate who they are more and more with the celebrities they follow. A 2011 study on celebrity worshippers showed a significant relationship between traits such as anxiety, depression and low self-esteem with celebrity worship.

It is important to remember, though celebrities are a great source of entertainment, they serve as poor replacements for the raw emotion and expression that is lost in translation when a certain fiction is enforced within a group. Oftentimes these online personas have negative effects, so one may wonder why they even persist. The simple answer is money and fame, but digging deeper a greater motive of the entertainment industry is uncovered. People are generally fickle, and will drop and appraise artists on a whim at any moment in time. Celebrity worship serves, in a weird way, as a safety net for the industry, giving them a solid and loyal consumer base to fall back on in times of need. This isn't necessarily evil, but like anything in life, it's important to realize what matters and prioritize the people around you rather than those you'll probably never even have a conversation with.

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# OCL revamps Spring Formal ticket sales

**Anoopa Sundararajan**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Every year, Spring Formal hosted by Union Board is one of the largest and most successful events that we see at Illinois Tech. Last year's Spring Formal was held at The Crystal Gardens at Navy Pier and 400 students attended, although several problems were encountered in the process of those 400 students obtaining tickets. This year, the Office of Campus Life (OCL) has revamped their policy on ticket sales to allow for a fairer and more systematic sale of tickets. Alex Carlson, the Director of Campus Life, helped us understand these changes and why they were made.

According to Carlson, 500 tickets will be sold this year over a two-week period from Monday, February 29, to Friday, March 11. Ticket sales will also occur at different times of the day for different days of the week: sales will begin at 1 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays,

4 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays and noon on Fridays. When asked what prompted the change, Carlson says, "Last year, tickets sold out very quickly and students told us they were skipping class and work to stand in line for tickets. We want to make sure that students have access to purchase tickets in a way that is not impacting them academically. We also want to ensure that as many different students as possible are able to purchase tickets. By placing tickets on sale on different days and different times, we hope to be able to reach on and off campus residents, students with only night classes, graduate and undergraduate level students, and anyone in between."

A group of student organization leaders whose organizations often deal with ticket sales for their events were consulted about these changes before they were enforced. By doing so, OCL was able to obtain direct student feedback on the potential impact that the change could have on students. The new system has been put in place to spread out

ticket sales so that each day, only a certain number of tickets are on sale and once those tickets have been sold, ticket sales will end until the next day. OCL hopes that this variety of days and times will result in a smoother and more effective ticket sale process.

Another aspect of the ticket sales that caused some conflict last year was some students buying tickets that they did not intend to use and then selling them to other students at higher prices. In response to being asked what, if anything, was being done, or could be done to prevent this from being repeated this year, Carlson says, "It is really important for everyone buying a ticket to read the Campus Life Ticket Sales Policy at <http://web.iit.edu/campus-life/events/ticket-sales>. Any student buying tickets from Campus Life agrees to these policies. Any ticket exchanges (regular or guest ticket name changes, even if you are selling your ticket to another person) must be done in our office. If that is not done, students will not be admitted to the event."

She goes on to say, "With exchanges our office will refund the original purchaser their funds and have the new purchaser place their order. Refunds will be processed at the end of each week throughout the semester."

Finally, when asked about the increase in prices for non-IIT guests, Carlson says that while outside guests are allowed to attend big events like Spring Formal, the focus remains to serve Illinois Tech students who pay into the Student Activities Fund (SAF) that sponsors these events. She added that the decision was made, "to encourage students to attend with campus members, but still allow them the option to bring an outside guest if they would like."

If you have any further questions about the changes in Spring Formal Ticket Sales, you can contact Alex Carlson at the Office of Campus Life or email her at [acarls03@iit.edu](mailto:acarls03@iit.edu).



## TICKET SALE CALENDAR

M	T	W	R	F
<b>FEB. 29</b> 1-6 PM	<b>MAR. 1</b> 1-6 PM	2 4-6 PM	3 4-6 PM	4 12-6 PM
7 1-6 PM	8 1-6 PM	9 4-6 PM	10 4-6 PM	11 12-6 PM

**ACCORDING TO OCL TICKET SALE POLICY:**  
TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE OFFICE OF CAMPUS LIFE IN THE MTCC  
A MAXIMUM OF 50 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD EACH DAY

\$20 IIT STUDENTS | \$40 NON-IIT STUDENTS

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# David Adjaye lectures on his latest work

**Peter Rigali**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

David Adjaye OBE is recognized as a leading architect of his generation. Adjaye was born in Tanzania to Ghanaian parents and his influences range from contemporary art, music and science to African art forms and the civic life of cities. In 1994 he set up his first office, where his ingenious use of materials and his sculptural ability established him as an architect with an artist's sensibility and vision.

Adjaye Associates now has four international offices, with projects throughout the world. These include a shopping and cultural complex in Beirut (ongoing), a concept store in Lagos (2014), a new headquarters building for the International Finance Corporation in Dakar (ongoing) and a hospital in Rwanda (ongoing). Adjaye has taught at the Royal College of Art, where he had previously studied, and at the Architectural Association School in London, and has held distinguished professorships at the universities

of Pennsylvania, Yale and Princeton. He is currently the John C. Portman Design Critic in Architecture at Harvard. Followed by a plethora of awards and commissions located globally.

David's understanding of architecture derives from his acknowledgement that quality design is a superposition of fundamental ideas. As in intentionally represented professional his investigations always start with a close examination of the cultural district that he is trying to effect. He views his work as temporary landmarks in time that highlight the history of a demographic as a formal narrative. He most specifically does this by collecting cultural tropes as the backbone for his forms and then abstracting them to a constructible model.

His lecture consisted of a 5 project dialogue lasting just over the course of a short hour and a half. During this time he started with his 2013 project, The Gwangju Pavilion or The River Reading Room, which sits on the banks of the River Gwangju. The Pavilion

encourages interaction between the city's inhabitants through the exchange of books.

The design allows for the open circulation of exactly 200 books, symbolizing the loss of 200 student lives at The Chonnam National University in May 1980. Conceptually the structure asks what is a Library with out walls, and will it be successful? Literally making the building a public experiment while using infrastructure as a nodal point makes a statement of the communities well-crafted respect for one another.

He finished with a detailed presentation of his recent work The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), a 500 million dollar project currently underway. Located in Washington, D.C. this project expressly makes a stance to not overtly outshine the already stacked monuments in the area. The goal was to unfold the narrative in a museum format using specially chosen emotional artifacts (some of which needed to be moved in as construction was underway because of their size). The real

conceptual push here was to create a building that acts as a lens to view D.C. while making the commentary of society "sweeping under the rug" the atrocities of African American oppression starting with slavery. The building does this by excavating 80 feet downward to house the bulk of the objects. Viewing this time in history like a set of unearthed ruins of a by gone time and the hindsight approach to cover it up. The façade is a free standing skin based from an abstracted geometry pulled from the traditional lattice iron work, very commonly found in traditional southern architecture. While making the point that it was in great numbers the highly skilled artisans drafted to America from their home of Africa who created a majority of these masterpieces. Its worth noting that the industrial revolution promoted the increase in iron work, while the laborer's traditionally favored wood.

It is Adjaye's devotion to understanding culture as a thread and using that to weave urban fabrics which made his lecture inspiring.

## Student org feature: Art & Digital Design

**Abhinaya Iyer**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

An integral part of college is having multiple organizations that help students find their hidden potential, whether it is being an artist or a leader. IIT has a large number of organizations, some very well-known while others' exists are more hidden. It's of utmost importance that their existence to everyone is known, so that they may use full potential of the organizations for future endeavors. This week, I would like to introduce the Art and Digital Design organization, which is a newly formed organization on campus for all those students interested in arts, but at the same time would like to work on a computer. This organization is head by Saya Nassyr, a freshman at the college of Architecture. The club's aim is to bring artists together and expose art to those people who

dropped it as a class in high school. With the proper guidance and resources, they believe every student can unlock the artist within them. Some may question why it is important for a tech school to have such an organization. Their simple answer was, "A tech school lacks art and it is a hidden opportunity not everyone has explored, in order to do that people need the right guidance and resources, for which we are here for." Art is a form of expression which many times inspires people to do work on new things.

The idea to set this up was thought of last semester, wherein people wanted to fuse art with the digital form and produce designs. "We made many changes along the way," quotes Migel Santos, one of the founding members. Yet, with all the changes, they believe the organization is working to

a better cause and has been successful as of now. They believe in working together and combining the requirements of the people to produce the wonderful designs that they have been working on for the past few weeks. "The more we spend time with the people, the more we understand their expectations and the more we mold our ways to suit theirs," quoted Donell Daniel, one of the founding members. They plan on working with design fields the rest of the semester and having a final exhibit at the end, in a professional manner.

Many students who know about this organization fear that they may need some prior knowledge in art or design. But according to the president Saya Nassyr, "There is no need of such knowledge. It is a way of fusing new ideas together and have an experience in the digital world. Sometimes, all we need

is a small fire to start a forest fire. A small burning passion is all that is needed to join this organization. We present with possibilities that people shouldn't be afraid to try, but rather enjoy the experience." Prior to having fun designing, they also help in portfolio building and acquiring skills in design software.

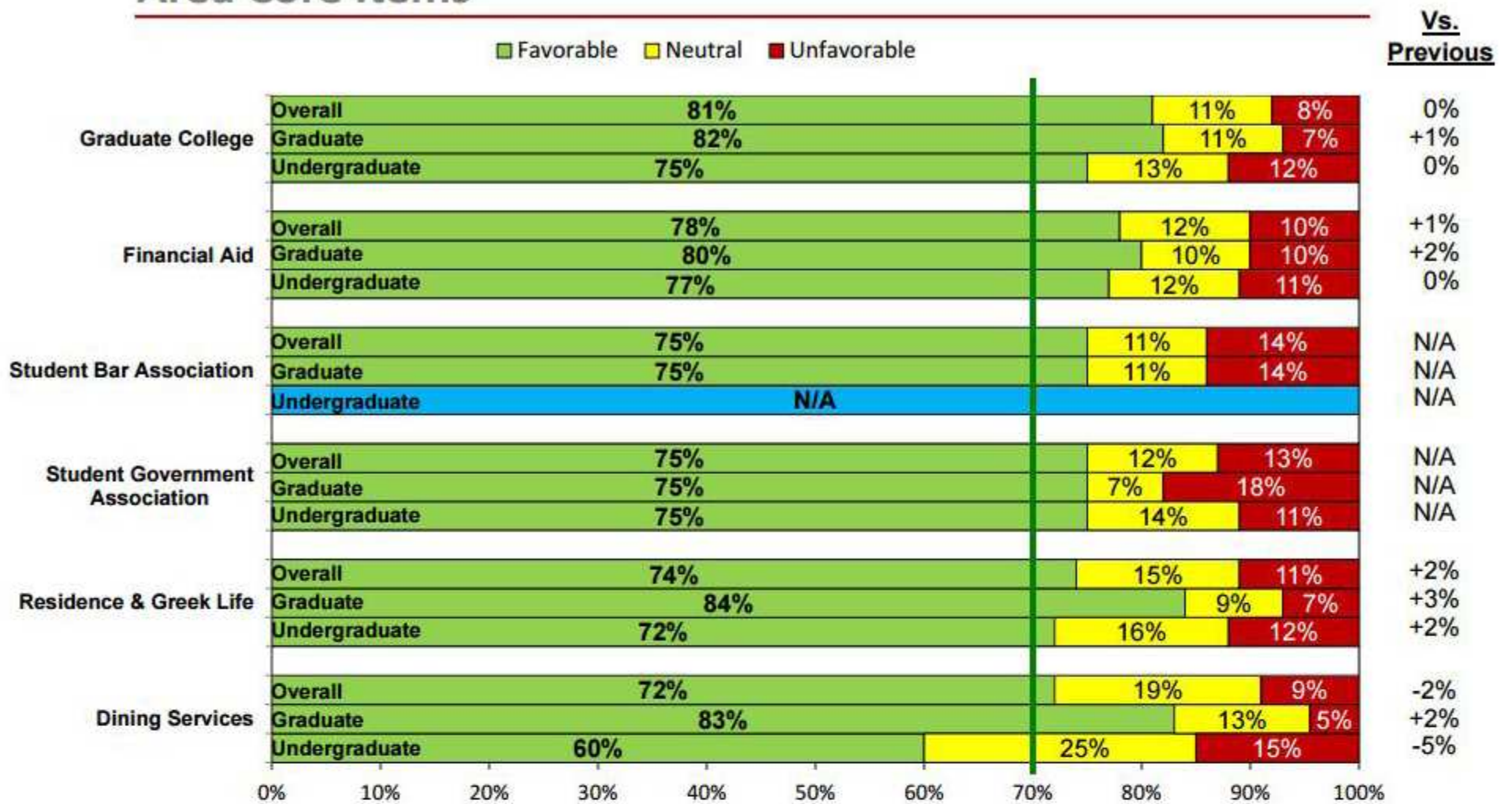
Currently, the organization meets every Monday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the MTCC, by the post office. Their future plans add field trips and to rise beyond the horizon of the MTCC. They have a variety of different expertise that includes: video designing, jeweler making, design templates and much more. The organization is just a start-up but seems to be of great success and they hope to continue the same for the future.





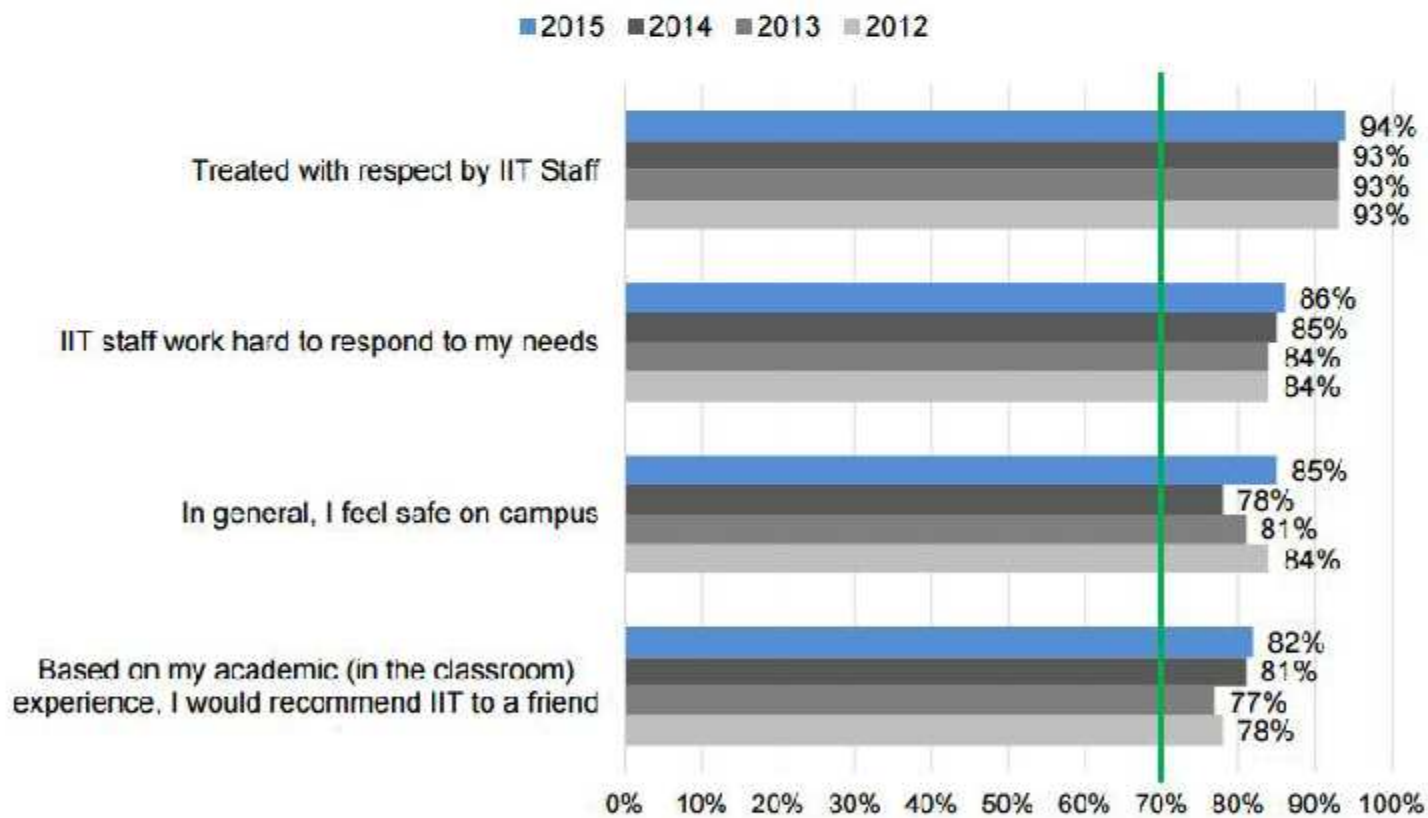
# Students give their opinions on academics, campus with Students Speak Survey

## Area Core Items



## Item View: Students Overall Experience at IIT

Indices rated 70% or above are considered strengths. Indices rated below 70% present opportunities for improvement.



### Response Summary

Data in this report are based on the following percentages of student survey respondents who reported they have used the service area within the past year:

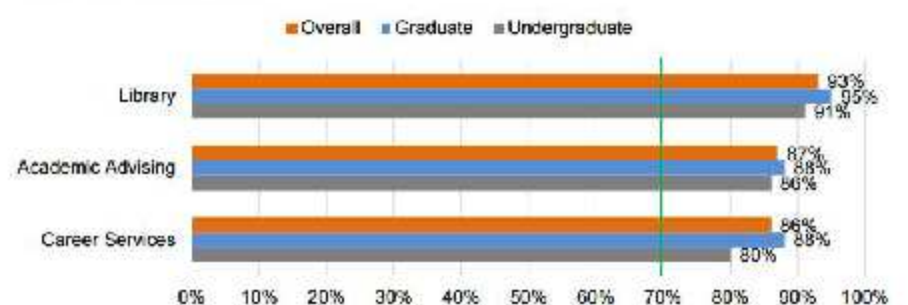
Service Area	Overall %	Undergraduate %	Graduate %
Academic Advising*	62%	76%	53%
Community Affairs	5%	3%	7%
Career Services	45%	37%	50%
Dining Services	66%	78%	58%
Facilities/Grounds	N/A	N/A	N/A
Financial Aid	36%	54%	23%
Graduate College	21%	4%	33%
International Center	35%	19%	47%
Library	81%	79%	82%
Residence & Greek Life	27%	55%	8%
Student Government Association	7%	12%	4%
Student Bar Association**	54%	N/A	54%

\*Not directly associated with a current IIT department or office  
 \*\*SBA response rate represents the % of Law Student respondents not all students

### Strengths

In terms of core items, the following service areas of the university are considered strengths:

- Library
- Academic Advising
- Career Services







## Reviews:

# 'At Hope's Ravine' by Holy Esque: stadium-size rock for bedroom-size thoughts

**Soren Spicknall**  
WIIT STATION MANAGER

Holy Esque is the kind of band that you find yourself forming an opinion of within the first verse you hear. Vocalist Pat Hynes has a growling, all-or-nothing presentation that grabs your attention whether you like it or not, contrasted against a ceaselessly loud and gritty, yet somehow equally polished, soundtrack. This divide is found in plenty of groups (including current post-punk darlings Titus Andronicus and folk rock fixtures Delta Spirit), but rarely does it make an appearance in as catchy a form as on Holy Esque's debut full-length release, "At Hope's Ravine," which drops on the 26th. The Glaswegian group splits the difference equally between Bruce Springsteen and Silversun Pickups, and while they haven't yet quite reached the crowd chorus heights of the former or the emotional density of the latter, they've carved out a niche all their own, informed by dreary U.K. days and shoegaze roots.

"At Hope's Ravine" begins with arguably its least appealing song, "Prism," a confusing sequencing choice that makes a little more sense when you realize that the track would be completely forgettable if it wasn't put first in the collection. "Prism" isn't necessarily a bad composition, but it suffers from a case of overblown production not fit for its melody, something that becomes an issue a few times throughout the LP. The track doesn't have a structure conducive to stadium rock, but is mixed with every element turned up to 11 in a misguided attempt to make it catchier than

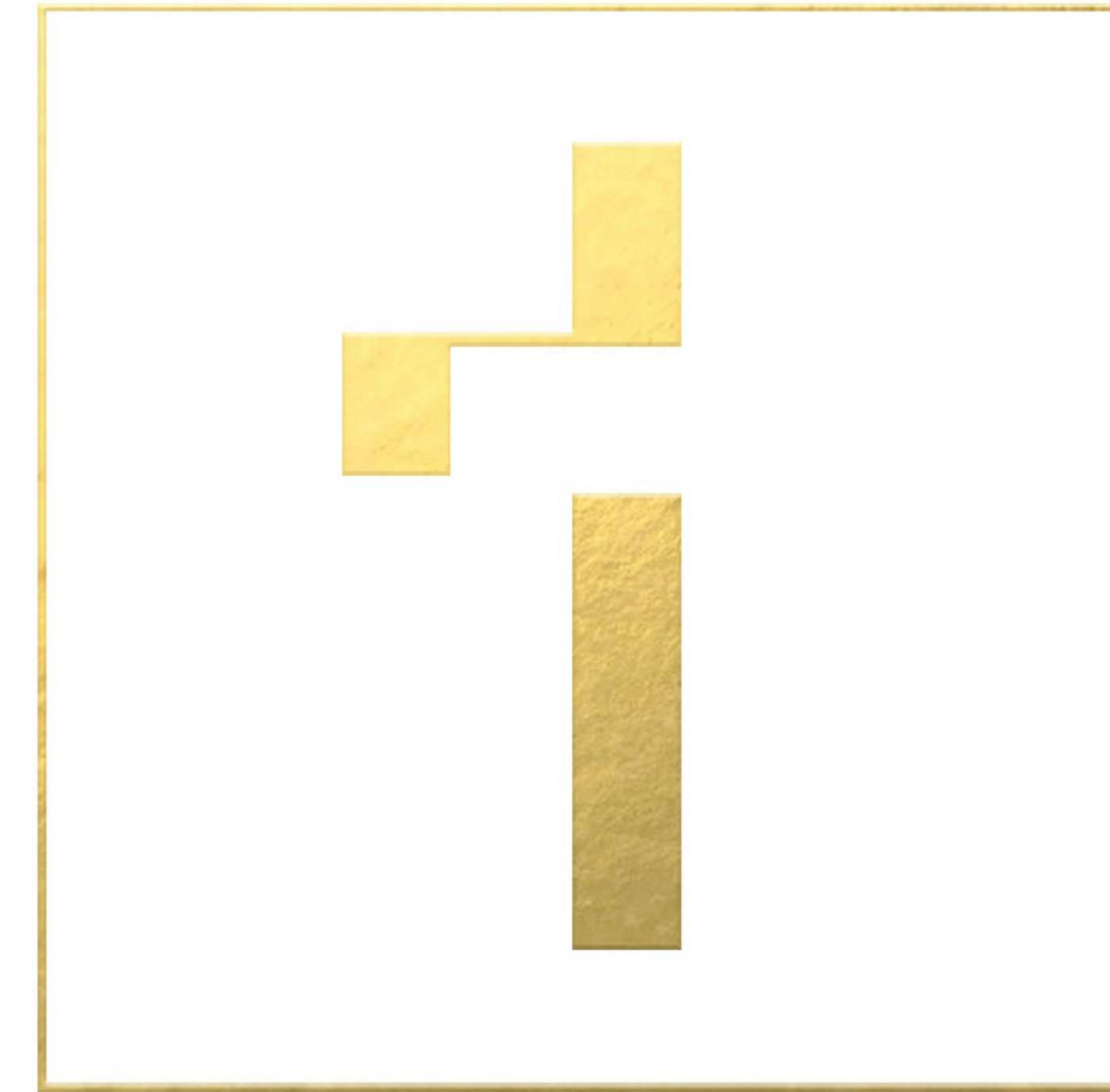


Image courtesy of Holy Esque

it really is. One of Holy Esque's biggest flaws so far as a group has come from struggles with the concept of dynamic contrast, and it's unclear

whether that can be pinned on the band themselves, or on this album's producer.

Luckily, the second and third pieces

on the album both immediately demonstrate why Holy Esque are rising stars in Scotland and abroad; "Rose" begins with a compelling guitar hook that's purely original, something nearly impossible to find in today's rock landscape, and "Hexx" (the album's first single) rises from distortion to an eventual peak rivaling early U2 or Who's Next-era The Who. While detractors will almost certainly point out that neither of these tracks quite match the complexity of either of those referenced artists, it's important to note that Holy Esque is still a very young band. Output of this quality on a first album is often a sign of great things to come, and hopefully that will be the case with this group.

Though the majority of the LP is solid, there are some pieces here and there that make you think that the collection might be better off with a slightly smaller track listing. Because of less impactful pieces like "Covenant (III)" and "St," most listeners won't be paying enough attention by the time the titular, final track rolls around to appreciate its power. And again, none of the less compelling songs on At Hope's Ravine are bad, per say; they simply are much louder than they need be, creating an album environment with few sonic breaks or perceived stylistic differences from song to song. Notably, the late-album track "My Wilderness" seems to have been mixed with some awareness of this problem, and is much better off for it. With a few adjustments or removals, this would be a stellar debut album. In its current state, though, Holy Esque have a little more sonic development to do before they can put out a truly compelling full-length release. 5.5/10

## 'The Asia Project' gives a stunning poetry performance at Hawks Coffeehouse

**Reno Waswil**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

"The Asia Project" is a successful touring performance poetry group consisting of the poet and namesake of the group (who performs under his first name) Asia, and his brother-in-law, Jollan Aurelio, who is a multi-instrumentalist with, as his biography reads, an "uncanny guitar talent," who accompanies him on guitar and effect pedal to add a spacey atmosphere to Asia's art. They are considered one of the leading touring college spoken word poetry acts in the United States performing at an average of 150 colleges a year.

Illinois Tech students had the pleasure of seeing "The Asia Project" perform at last week's Hawks Coffeehouse, which is a bi-weekly Tuesday evening event wherein an artist, usually one of a folk inspired and acoustically minded styling, performs for the student body in the MTCC Welcome Center from 7 to 8 p.m. The attendees of the show are free to relax in the area, possibly to do homework or socialize, drink some of the complimentary coffee,

tea, and hot chocolate available, and survey the assortment of sweet snacks provided.

Due to the nature of the performance that night though--the passion and power of the group; Asia's what can only be described as yelling and crying style of speaking; the loud, synth-y, and hypnotic tone of the guitar accompaniment--it may have been more difficult than usual to pay attention to things other than the artists compared to other more pop and folk sounding acts that tend to be featured at the recurring event.

This week's artist happened to fall in line with a regular sub category of the event called "Poetry and Pancakes," so in addition to the refreshment selection, there was also a full pancake bar, which included maple syrup, fruit preserves, chocolate chips, whipped cream, and of course, four dozen pancakes, which were all gone by the time Sodexo came to pick up the food that night at 9 p.m.

Asia came with an ample amount of pre-prepared promotional material, a script to introduce him with, and an entire media kit, complete with biographies of the group mem-

bers, pictures, and an extensive list of accolades to speak to the quality of his art. To name some of these accolades, Asia has been featured on Home Box Office's (HBO) "Russell Simmon's Def Poetry" and Black Entertainment Television's (BET) "Lyric Cafe," has received first place in poetry competitions Florida Hot Air State Championship and Southern Fried Regional Championship, titles like Performer of the Year by the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities (APCA), and has performed with artists like KRS-One, Dead Prez, DMN, and Jill Scott.

To speak to the performance, the poetry was heart-wrenching. Asia, as his biography explains, sees his show and his poetry as "an honest and genuine testimony of his life" which includes, most memorably his battle with cancer and the death of his sister and how it affected him and his family. His poetry was both vulnerable and inspiring, and his tendency to get louder and louder as each poem went on was invigorating and moving and could bring the more sensitive observer to tears.

The other of the duo, Aurilio, was

absolutely stunning as well and added as much to the overall performance as the poetry. Thanks to his talent on both guitar and guitar synthesizing equipment along with the expert work and booming sound equipment offered by Alien Sound and Lighting, the backing music came as a wave of airy tone which greatly enhanced the words and gave them an unexpected and amazing force. It became abundantly clear why they are considered such a great act.

For those enticed by this description, for more live intimate artistic performance art, the next Hawks Coffeehouse is planned for March 1, 2016 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the MTCC Welcome Center. This show will feature the musical styling of Justin Young, a Hawaiian guitarist, ukulelist, and keyboardist who is considered a star in the Hawaiian music scene with four number one hits off his 1997 album "Southe You" alone. For the occasion, pineapple upside-down cake bites along with the usual coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be provided.

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I don't believe in love  
 For all there is to gain  
 Is a couple dried up tears  
 And a heart that throbs with pain  
 The numbness spreads all over  
 As the sadness fades away  
 Realizations ebbing  
 My fantasies away  
 One silly girl  
 One silly crush  
 A stupid habit fed by trust  
 Once soaring high  
 A heart shot down  
 In a sea of sorrow

Left to drown  
 No room for resolutions  
 Just questions left unsaid  
 A friendship left to tatters  
 As she smiles to mask the dread  
 Make them happy  
 Make him happy  
 Make her happy  
 Just stay happy  
 I don't believe in love  
 For it only leads to lies  
 You silly girl  
 You should have known  
 That all you'd do is cry

*-Hina*

# Coffee Ex Coffee

Reno Waswil

Sitting in a small neighborhood cafe  
 people watching  
 lapping like dogs  
 They sure look like their enjoying their coffee  
 And what is that  
 Is that a crepe?  
 It looks really good  
 All crumbly and sweet  
 Or savory  
 Looks like he's really enjoying it

God, I'm hungry  
 And I'm late!  
 Where's my coffee?  
 I ordered it like  
 5 minutes ago?!  
 God, this place is the worst

And look at that smug guy over there  
 Eating his smug crepe  
 And typing an email or something on his Apple computer  
 He thinks he so great  
 I bet he's eating an apple crepe too  
 He thinks he owns the place

You know what?  
 I bet he does  
 Seems like it, from his crumbly, crepe face  
 You know what?

I know what to do  
 This'll really get them  
 Let me must just log on to my yelp account here  
 0 stars!  
 Take that Starbucks  
 And on your own free wifi too



# SUDOKU

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2				4		7		
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## 数独

The word Sudoku, above, is actually the abbreviation of "Suuji wa dokushin ni kagiru," meaning "the digits must be single" or "the digits are limited to one occurrence."



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WE ARE ALWAYS ACCEPTING SLIPSTICK SUBMISSIONS  
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 email editor@technewsiiit.com



# Tennis Club makes history at sectional championships

**George Mihai**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

This past weekend, the Illinois Tech Tennis Club made history at the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Sectional Championships in Madison, Wisconsin,

by qualifying for the 2016 USTA National Championship. The Illinois Tech Tennis Club made it to the Bronze Final on Saturday, February 20, and won the the USTA Midwest Club Award of the year with an automatic bid for nationals. The National Championship will take place in Cary, North Carolina, on

April 14, 15 and 16, 2016 where Illinois Tech will make its first appearance in our school's history. Saturday marked a historic win for Illinois Tech and a challenging beginning as the tennis club will be fighting for the top spot in the country representing the USTA Midwest Conference. The members of the

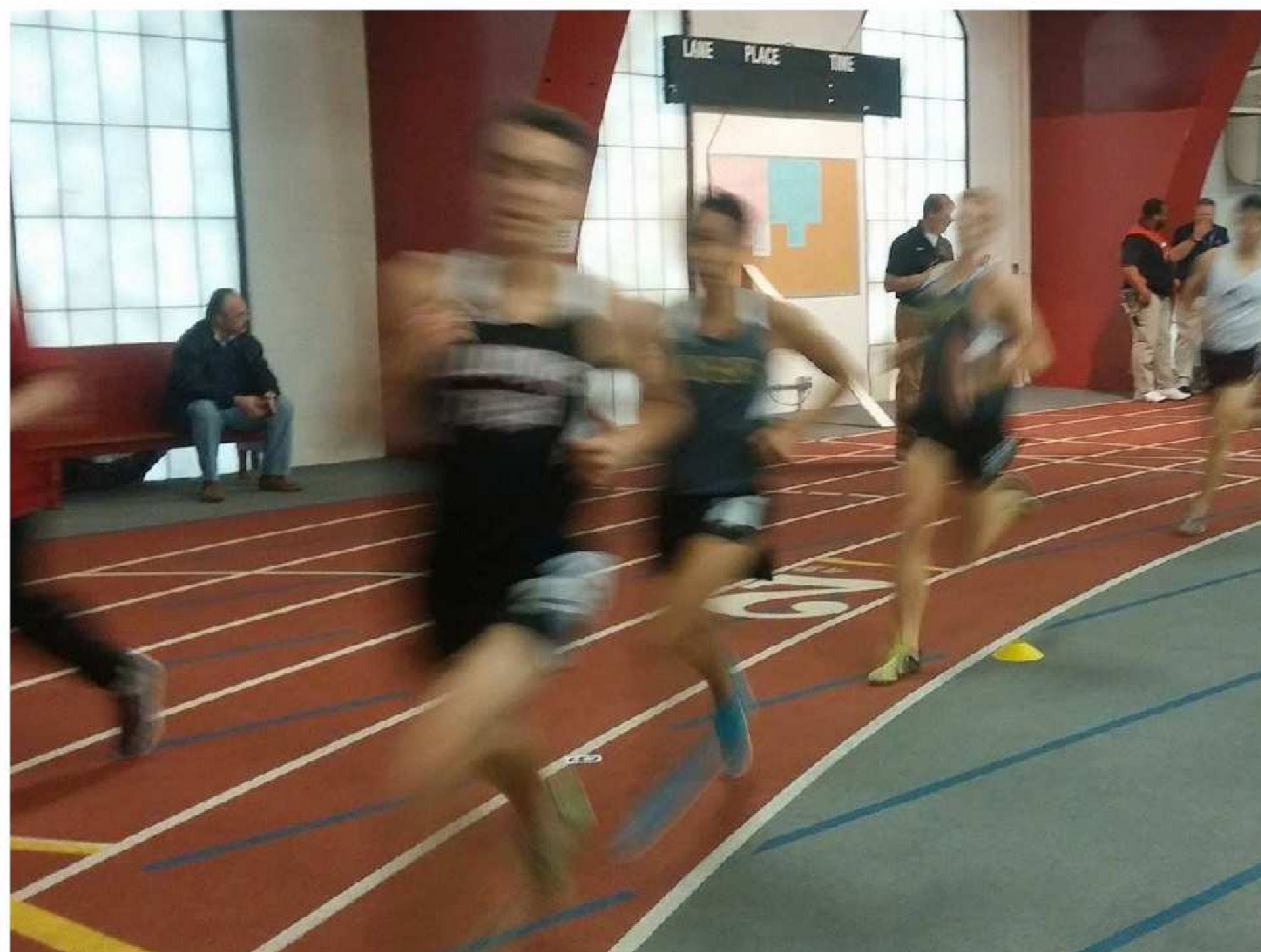
Tennis Club who participated in the Sectional Championships are Hannah Barnes, Jessica Ginesta, Marta Naudó, Meriem Sakrouhi, Vincent Boulanger, Connor Mullane, Jerry Huo, George Mihai, Abhishek Rana and Franklin Zhong. Congratulations to the Illinois Tech Tennis Club and good luck at Nationals.



Photos Courtesy of George Mihai



# Track & Field competes at Margaret Bradley Invitational



Photos by Genevieve Hummel



**Tuesday, February 17**  
**Women's Basketball**  
 @ Moody Bible  
 7 p.m.

**Men's Volleyball**  
 vs. Robert Morris  
 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 24**  
**Men's Basketball**  
 @ Lincoln Christian  
 7 p.m.

**Friday, February 26**  
**Men's Volleyball**  
 @ Marian  
 5 p.m.

**Friday, March 4**  
**Track and Field**  
 @ Illinois Tech  
 4 p.m.

**Women's Lacrosse**  
 vs. Loras  
 3 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 8**  
**Women's Lacrosse**  
 @ Concordia  
 7 p.m.

**Thursday, March 10**  
**Men's Volleyball**  
 @ Milwaukee Engr.  
 7 p.m.

**Friday, March 11**  
**Women's Lacrosse**  
 @ Benedictine  
 3 p.m.

## Illinois Tech Weekly Athletics Results:

### Women's Basketball:

Wednesday, February 17 @ Wheaton L, 90-10  
 Saturday, February 20 vs. Grace Bible L, 56-36

### Men's Volleyball:

Friday, February 19 vs. Fontbonne L, 3-0  
 Saturday, February 20 vs. Marian L, 3-0

### Men's Track and Field:

Saturday, February 20 Margaret Bradley Invitational @UChicago 7th Place

### Women's Track and Field:

Saturday, February 20 Margaret Bradley Invitational @UChicago 7th Place





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By JONATHAN WEISMAN  
AND LAURA MECKLER

Obama

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